

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 04342 232159Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /013 W
-----093114 240635Z /20
R 230916Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1246

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4342

EA ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, KS, US
SUBJ: INTERNAL ROK POLITICAL SCENE

1. EMBASSY SOURCE INDICATED TO DCM THAT FOLLOWING SCENARIO
WAS DEVELOPING ON INTERNAL ROK POLITICAL SCENE FOR THIS
SUMMER:

EARLY JULY: PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
MID-JULY: MAJOR CABINET CHANGES
LATE JULY - MID AUGUST: PRESIDENTIAL VACATION
LATE AUGUST: PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION
MID-SEPTEMBER: ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS
LATE SEPTEMBER: ASSEMBLY MEETING

THIS TENTATIVE SCHEDULE IS CONSISTENT WITH OTHER INFORMATION
WE HAVE OBTAINED. SOURCE SAID THAT GOVERNMENT PARTIES WILL
CONTINUE TO DENY POSSIBILITY OF EARLY ELECTIONS AT LEAST
UNTIL AFTER PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, WHICH BLUE HOUSE WISHES
TO BE CONDUCTED IN "CALM" ATMOSPHERE. IT APPEARS ALSO
QUITE LIKELY THAT IN THIS PERIOD, ASSUMING RELATIVE
CALM ON CAMPUSES AND IN OTHER SECTORS, FURTHER RELEASES
OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND OTHER POSSIBLE RELAXATION
MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN.

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2. COMMENT: THIS TIME SCHEDULE IS CONSISTENT WITH
OUR OWN SPECULATION. IF IT HOLDS UP, WE FACE THE
PROSPECTS OF A VERY BUSY SUMMER.
SNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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